Statement

Liberalised special family pension equal to reckonable emoluments last drawn, both for the officers and the personnel below officer rank till death or disqualification. Family gratuity at the specified rates depending on the rank and death gratuity depending on the length of service is also admissible.

2. **Army group Insurance Benefits**

The families would also be entitled to death benefits from AGI at the following scale :—

Officer — Rs. 3,50,000/- w.e.f. 01 Apr. 89

JCOs/OR— Rs. 1,50,000/-

3. **Other Benefits**

Financial assistance at the following scale is applicable :—

Army Officer's Benevolent Fund	Next of Kin of Officers are entitled to maximum financial grants of Rs. 18,000.	
		Rs.
Army Wives .	Officers	2,000
Welfare Association .	JCO	1,200
	NCO	1,000
	OR	800
Army Relief Fund .	Officers	1,000
	JCO	300
	OR	200

Defence Services Officers' Provident Fund/Armed Forces Personnel Provident Fund and leave encashment as admissible.

4. **Employment Assistance**

Upto two dependents of service personnel killed or severely wounded in the operations are entitled to Priority IIA for employment in Group 'C' and 'D' posts filled through DGE&T Employment Exchanges.

5. **Educational Concessions**

Children of Defence personnel killed or disabled in action, who are studying in educational institutions under the Department of Education are entitled to the following educational concessions :—

(a) Complete exemption from tuition fee and other fees levied by the educational institution concerned.

(b) Grants to meet hostel charge in full for those studying in Boarding Schools and Colleges.

(c) Full cost of books and stationery.

(d) Full cost of uniform where this is compulsory.

6. **Grant for Construction/Repair of Houses**

50% of grant paid to War Widows by the State Govts. for construction/repairs for houses is re-imbursed by the Centre subject to a maximum of Rs. 5,000/.

7. **Grant for Marriages of Daughters of war widows**

The Kendriya Sainik Board gives a grant of Rs. 1,000 for marriage of a daughter of a war widow.

8. **Rail Travel Concession**

75% concession in rail fare for travel in Second Class is available to war widows.

162 **Cost of Elections**

2442. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA
SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether elections in the country are becoming too costly; and

(b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by the Government for reducing the cost of elections?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTIC E AND

COMPANY AFFAIRS AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) The expenditure incurred by the Government on holding elections is showing an upward trend.

(b) It is proposed to use Electronic Voting Machine at all byeelections countermanded elections which may be held after 1-10-91 use of these machines would greatly reduce expenditure in holding elections and there are other proposals in this regard under consideration.

Development of National Highway Between Bombay and Pune

2443. PROF. ASHOK ANANDRAO DESHMUKH : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to widen and develop the National Highway between Bombay and Pune;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (*a*) *to* (*c*) Yes, Sir. A number of works costing Rs. 29·55 crores, consisting of widening to 4-lanes, strengthening of existing pavement and realignment of the road to improve geometrics are currently in progress on this section of NH-4. Further works will be considered after finalisation of the VIII Plan.

[*Translation*]

RRBS in Kanpur Dehat and Fatehpur Districts of Uttar Pradesh

2444. SHRI KESHRI LAL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Regional Rural Banks functioning at present in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) the number of branches of the said banks in Kanpur Dehat and Fatehpur districts;

(c) the average population for which a Rural Bank is functioning in Kanpur Dehat and Fatehpur districts; and

(d) the bank-wise details of losses suffered/profits earned by the banks functioning at present in these districts ?

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) : (a) There are 40 Regional Rural Banks operating in the State of Uttar Pradesh.

(b) The number of branches of Kanpur Kshetriya Gramin Bank operating in Kanpur Dehat is 88 and the number of branches of Fatehpur Kshetriya Gramin Bank in Fatehpur district is 55.

(c) As per the provisional data, the average population served by each branch of a Commercial Bank in Kanpur Dehat is 10,608 and in Fatehpur it is 14,840.

(d) The Kanpur Kshetriya Gramin Bank and Fatehpur Kshetriya Gramin Bank had incurred a loss of Rs. 1·44 crores and Rs. 1·07 crores respectively during 1989-90.

[*English*]

Export of Jacquard Cloth

2445. SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state : —

(a) whether the export of Jacquard cloth made at Chirala in Andhra Pradesh has been stopped by the Government; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT) : (a) Government have not received any reports about the stopping of jacquard cloth exports.

(b) Does not arise.

Exports to Canada

2446. DR. C. SILVERA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Indian exports to Canada are less as compared to those of other Asian countries;